CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving a first basic input/output system image to replace an existing second basic input/output system image stored in a firmware memory;

modifying the first basic input/output system image by replacing a portion of the first basic input/output system image with a portion of the second basic input/output system image; and

writing the modified first basic input/output system image to the firmware memory to replace the second basic input/output system image.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the portion of the second basic input/output system image comprises configuration data for a computer system.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the configuration data comprises boot options for a computer system.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the portion of the second basic input/output system image corresponds to a portion of the second basic input/output system image locked from a write operation.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the receiving comprises:

storing the first basic input/output system image in a system memory of a computer system.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

comparing the portion of the first basic input/output system image with the portion of the second basic input/output system image to check for compatibility between the first and second basic input/output system images.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the comparing comprises:

comparing the size of the portion of the first basic input/output system image with the size of the portion of the second basic input/output system image.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the comparing comprises:

comparing a location of the portion of the first basic input/output system image with a location of the portion of the second basic input/output system image.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

using a FLASH memory for the firmware memory.

10. (Original) A computer system comprising:

a firmware memory storing an existing basic input/output system image; and

a processor to:

modify a replacement basic input/output system image by replacing a portion of the replacement basic input/output system image with a portion of the existing basic input/output system image; and

write the modified replacement basic input/output system image to the firmware memory to replace the existing basic input/output system image.

11. (Original) The computer system of claim 10, wherein the portion of the existing basic input/output system image comprises configuration data for the computer system.

12. (Original) The computer system of claim 11, wherein the configuration data comprises boot options for the computer system.

13. (Original) The computer system of claim 10, wherein the portion of the existing basic input/output system image corresponds to a region of the firmware memory locked from writes.

14. (Original) The computer system of claim 10, further comprising:

a system memory,

wherein the processor stores the replacement basic input/output system image in the system memory.

15. (Original) The computer system of claim 10, wherein the processor compares the portion of the existing basic input/output system image with the portion of the replacement basic input/output system image to check for compatibility between the existing and replacement basic input/output system images.

16. (Original) The computer system of claim 15, wherein the processor compares the size of the portion of the existing basic input/output system image with the size of the portion of the replacement basic input/output system image.

17. (Original) The computer system of claim 15, wherein the processor compares a location of the portion of the existing basic input/output system image with a location of the portion of the replacement basic input/output system image.

18. (Original) The computer system claim 10, wherein the firmware memory comprises a FLASH memory.

19. (Original) An article comprising a computer readable storage medium storing instructions to cause a processor to:

modify a replacement basic input/output system image by replacing a portion of the replacement basic input/output system image with a portion of an existing basic input/output system image stored in a firmware memory; and

write the modified replacement basic input/output system image to the firmware memory to replace the existing basic input/output system image.

20. (Original) The article of claim 19, wherein the portion of the existing basic input/output system image comprises configuration data for a computer system.

21. (Original) The article of claim 20, wherein the configuration data comprises boot options for a computer system.

22. (Original) The article of claim 19, wherein the portion of the existing basic input/output system image corresponds to a region of the firmware memory locked from writes.

23. (Original) The article of claim 19, the storage medium storing instructions to cause the processor to store the replacement basic input/output system image in a system memory of a computer system.

24. (Original) The article of claim 19, the storage medium storing instructions to cause the processor to compare the portion of the existing basic input/output system image with the portion of the replacement basic input/output system image to check for compatibility between the existing and replacement basic input/output system images.

25. (Original) The article of claim 24, the storage medium storing instructions to cause the processor to compare the size of the portion of the existing basic input/output system image with the size of the portion of the replacement basic input/output system image.

26. (Original) The article of claim 24, the storage medium storing instructions to cause the processor to compare a location of the portion of the existing basic input/output system image with a location of the portion of the replacement basic input/output system image.

27. (Original) The article claim 19, wherein the firmware memory comprises a FLASH memory.